PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Sean Simonson PIO (408) 586-2810

SANTA CLARA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

WHAT: Countywide Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Exercise

WHERE: NASA/Ames Research Center- Building 152 Moffett Field Mountain View, CA

WHEN: Saturday, September 7, 2013 from 8:00AM to 5:00 PM

WHO: CERT members from all over Santa Clara County are invited to participate

Summary/Details:

On Saturday, September 7, 2013 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members from all over Santa Clara County will participate in the annual Countywide CERT training at NASA/Ames Research Center in Mountain View. Agencies participating in this training include Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Hills, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Milpitas, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale and Palo Alto.

During the training CERT members will be divided into teams to negotiate a course designed to test and enhance their skills. Learning stations will include the Incident Command System, which provides a deeper understanding of managing disaster operations, Cribbing Operations where teams will work together to rescue simulated victims trapped under large heavy objects; Damage Assessment to identify signs of a damaged building and determine whether buildings are safe to enter; and Communications Techniques which will teach radio protocols and procedures for effective communications during an emergency.

The CERT Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

If you are a CERT member in Santa Clara County you are invited to register at http://2013countywidecertdrill.eventbrite.com